



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SCOTT PETERS

First District

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Statement from Council President Scott Peters on
a projected \$43 million deficit in the City of San Diego's Fiscal Year 2009 budget

SAN DIEGO – After addressing the City of San Diego Council's Budget and Finance Committee, during their discussion of the current FY '09 budget estimates and plan of action, Council President Scott Peters today released the following statement on the projected \$43 million budget deficit facing the city.

“With the news of a potential \$43 million budget deficit, the City faces a tremendous financial challenge. We have an obligation to respond promptly and responsibly. San Diego has been a leader in responding to fiscal challenges in the past and we will continue to show that leadership.

“In truth, we're fortunate that this situation did not arise before now. For a time, we anticipated that the State might take money from our budget. Thanks to efforts by Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer's at the League of California Cities, the governor did not take from the City budget. Now, however, the markets have, and the economy has.

“Looking ahead, we are all going to be called to do what we can. It's not going to be easy, and we're not going to like the cuts that will be necessary. However, we will make sacrifices as we need to, and will include our own offices and our own budgets while we explore the options.

“I pledge to deal with this deficit in a sensitive manner, respectful of the likelihood that there will be people who will lose their jobs.

“The Council will work with the Mayor on this. We will coordinate the calendar to address the budget deficits in a timely manner and make time on the docket to ensure the issues are addressed carefully and openly.”

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